

Section 2.—Scientific and Industrial Research in Canada.

This section has, in past years, dealt with the history of scientific and industrial research in Canada and has included subsections outlining the organization and work of the National Research Council and of those provincial councils and private institutions which are primarily interested in research work. During the past year, the operations of these organizations continued to be conducted along the lines described in previous issues of the Year Book, and to conserve space the section is not reprinted in this edition. The reader is referred in this connection to pp. 866 to 872 of the 1932 Year Book.

An important event in the history of scientific research in Canada was the opening of the new building of the National Research Council on Aug. 10, 1932.

Section 3.—The Libraries of Canada.*

It is more than three and a quarter centuries since the first known library came to what is now the Dominion of Canada—the library brought by Marc Lescarbot to Port Royal in 1606. A library was connected with Laval College at its establishment in 1663, although it was many years later before this institution became important. During the next century record is found of several libraries in Quebec city; one of these, a Jesuit library mentioned by Peter Kalm, the Swedish traveller (its existence is recorded again in 1789), was afterwards sold to the *Quebec Gazette* and again sold in 1851 to the Library of Parliament. The volumes, which have survived the ravages of time and two fires, may still be found on Parliament Hill at Ottawa. Two other libraries founded in Quebec in the 18th century were a subscription library established in 1779 and the Quebec Legislative Library established in 1792. Four years later a public library was opened in Montreal. The Legislative Library of Upper Canada was established in 1791. The Legislative Library of Prince Edward Island is somewhat older, as it was founded in 1773. The King's College Library, located until recently at Windsor, Nova Scotia, and now at Halifax, dates from 1800, the year of the founding of the oldest existing public library in the Dominion, the library at Niagara. During the first quarter of the 19th century there were several libraries founded in Nova Scotia, several in Montreal, and at least one in Western Canada.

In the first quarter of the 20th century there was much activity in the establishment of libraries for public use. Of the 1,110 existing Canadian libraries for which statistics have been secured, 256 are known to have been established during that period, without regard to the fact that the dates of founding have not been secured for all libraries and the certainty that for one reason or another some libraries have not survived.

Public Libraries.—Public libraries, to the number of 637 in 1933, report a circulation of 22,126,000 books, exclusive of the loans for reading-room or reference-room use. These figures do not include "travelling libraries", "open-shelf libraries", the Carnegie district demonstrations in the Fraser Valley of British Columbia and in Prince Edward Island, or the county libraries of the Nova Scotia Department of Education. The public libraries as at present conducted are primarily urban institutions; the total urban population of Canada in 1931 was 5,572,058, while the population in centres served by the 637 libraries was about 4,424,000. Only in

*The latest biennial Survey of Libraries in Canada is for 1933 and may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician.